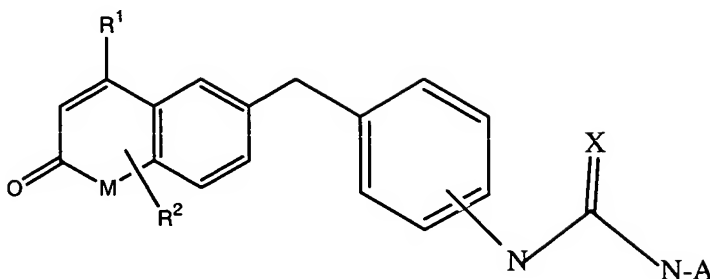


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:



5

in which;

- a. M is NZ or O;
- b. Z is represented by H or C₁-C₄ alkyl;
- c. R¹ is represented by hydrogen, (C₁-C₂)alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogens, or (C₁-C₂)alkoxy, optionally substituted with one or more halogens;
- d. R² is absent, or may represent up to 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitrile, hydroxy, (C₁-C₄)alkyl, (C₂-C₄)alkenyl, (C₂-C₄)alkynyl, (C₁-C₄)alkoxy, (C₁-C₂)alkyl substituted with one or more halogens, (C₁-C₂)alkoxy substituted with one or more halogens, SR⁴, and NR⁴R⁵;
- e. X is represented by O or S;
- f. A is represented by hydrogen, (C₁-C₈)alkyl, (C₂-C₈)alkenyl, (C₂-C₈)alkynyl, -[CH₂]_m-D-[CH₂]_n-(CH₃), -[CH₂]_mC(O)OR⁴, -[CH₂]_mC(O)R⁴, -[CH₂]_mC(O)NR⁴R⁵, or (CH₂)_n-R³-R⁶;
- g. m is an integer selected from 1 to 8;

10

15

20

- h. n is an integer from 0 to 8;
- i. D is represented by O or S;
- 5 j. R^3 is represented by optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted naphthyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or optionally substituted heterocyclic;
- k. R^4 and R^5 are each independently represented by hydrogen, (C_1 - C_4)alkyl, optionally substituted benzyl or optionally substituted phenyl, and;
- 10 l. R^6 is absent, or is represented by a substituent selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted naphthyl, optionally substituted phenoxy, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, optionally substituted heterocyclic, and optionally substituted heteroaryl.
- 15
2. The compound according to claim 1 in which NC(X)N-A is bonded to the para-position of the benzyl ring.
3. The compound according to claim 1 in which NC(X)N-A is bonded to the ortho-position of the benzyl ring.
- 20 4. The compound according to claim 2 in which X is represented by O.
5. The compound according to claim 2 in which X is represented by S.
6. The compound according to claim 3 in which X is represented by O.
- 25 7. The compound according to claim 3 in which X is represented by S.
8. The compound according any one of claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 in which M is represented by NZ, in which Z is represented by hydrogen.
- 30 9. The compound according to claim 8 in which A is represented by $(CH_2)_nR^3R^6$, in which n is 0, R^6 is absent and R^3 is optionally substituted phenyl.

10. A method for inhibiting activation of the androgen receptor comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 to a patient in need thereof.

5 11. A method for the alleviating a condition selected from the group consisting of alopecia, acne, oily skin, prostrate cancer, hirsutism, and benign prostate hyperplasia, comprising administering a compound according to Claim 1 to a patient in need thereof.

12. Use of a compound according to Claim 1 as a medicine.

10 13. Use of a compound according to Claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting activation of the androgen receptor.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 in admixture with one, or more, pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

15 15. A topical pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to Claim 1 in admixture with one, or more, pharmaceutically acceptable excipients suitable for dermal application.

16. An article of manufacture comprising a compound according to Claim 1 packaged for retail distribution which advises a consumer how to utilize the compound to alleviate a condition selected from the group consisting of acne, alopecia, and oily skin.

20